



Bulletin

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(revised)

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Release of School Year 2007 Meat and Poultry Surveys and Dollar Guidance for Group A Commodity Groups

Meat and Poultry products round surveys will be available for ordering on March 2, 2006. If you did not receive an ECOS-generated notification for surveys released, contact the ECOS help desk at (703) 305-2914 or email them at helpdesk.ecos@fns.usda.gov.

Please use your ECOS Round Survey Report to review due dates, available delivery dates, and other specific survey information. Please spread orders over the available delivery periods.

Most meat and poultry orders are due on April 28, 2006. **July** delivery orders are due April 14. Orders for canned meat, bought on a quarterly basis, are also due April 14th for deliveries through September.

Forty/Sixty Challenge: Limited funds are available for July through November 15th deliveries, i.e. purchases made the last quarter of the fiscal year. About forty percent (40 %) of entitlement dollars are available in the fourth quarter and sixty percent (60 %) remains for deliveries November 30th through June 30th. Please monitor orders and try to stay within these parameters.

Dollar Guidance: The [attached excel chart](#) provides dollar “guides” for Group A commodity groups. The amounts are based on the projected balance of dollars available for Group A purchases and based on estimates of dollars needed for Group B purchases.

Flexible Ordering Policy: States orders are not precisely restricted to the dollar amounts in the guide. These are target amounts based on the purchase plan. Therefore, States need not restrict schools districts to “fair-shares” of these dollar amounts or allocated pounds of commodities. USDA’s goal is to provide flexibility to States and school districts while maintaining levels of support across **all markets** which include: beef, pork, fish, turkey, egg and chicken.

States are moving to more flexible request-driven systems and orders typically have met program goals. Therefore, we will continue to operate under this flexible policy through out the upcoming School Year as long as program goals are met nationally.

Capped Products: Because of capacity limitations and higher pricing, we must control quantities ordered for some poultry products. The “capped” amount for chicken fajita and breaded chicken are included in the guidance chart under a separate tab. Some States turn back this offering, which we will make available to others that indicate additional quantity is desired.

Contact the appropriate [commodity specialist](#) for any requested changes so that we can assist you meet your entitlement. Have a successful new school year!

[Attachment](#)

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/focus/>